



FROM THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JIM COSTA

*Representing California's 16th District
Fresno County · Madera County · Merced County*

DREAMer Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND

It is immoral to continue to allow our DREAMers to live in fear and uncertainty. These young people are our neighbors – many of them are students – and they are woven into the fabric of America. In the San Joaquin Valley alone, we have nearly 600 DREAMers attending Fresno State and approximately 545 attending UC Merced. Congress must act, and I will continue to fight for our DREAMers and for bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform.

MY ACTIONS

Under the Trump Administration, the future of the DACA program was initially unclear. Accordingly, I joined many of my colleagues in Congress to make protecting DREAMers a top priority, and I have consistently and unequivocally stood with DREAMers. Here is what I have done:

- In January, I cosponsored the [BRIDGE Act](#), which would provide 3 years of deferred action to DREAMers while Congress works towards comprehensive immigration reform.
- In March, I [spoke on the House floor](#), calling on the Administration to work with Congress on a bipartisan basis to finally reform our nation's broken immigration system. For years I have advocated for bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform to bring common sense, fairness, and certainty to our immigration system. As a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), I have worked with my colleagues to get this crucial reform through Congress.
- In April and July, I joined my CHC colleagues in meeting with then-Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly to discuss America's immigration policy. Our message to Secretary Kelly was very simple: the U.S. must preserve the DACA program. We must allow these young people to continue contributing to our country while Congress works on bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform.
- In August, I [wrote to President Trump](#), urging him to continue DACA and to protect the program in court from ongoing lawsuits.
- On Sept. 5, 2017, when the Administration announced it would terminate DACA following a 6-month delay, I [took to the House floor](#) to again stand with DREAMers, expressing my deep disappointment with the decision and reaffirming my determination to protect our DREAMers.
- I sent a newsletter to my constituents to provide them with essential information and key deadlines for how to extend their DACA protections.
- I joined my House colleagues in cosponsoring the [Dream Act](#), a bill that would provide DREAMers with a legal status and put them on a path for earned citizenship.
- I signed a discharge petition to force the *Dream Act* to the House floor for a vote, refusing to allow partisan politics to bury the legislation.
- Since DACA's protections were rescinded by the Trump Administration, I have contacted acting Homeland Security Secretary Elaine Duke, expressing the dire need to [protect DREAMers personal information](#), asking the Department of Homeland Security to [extend the artificial deadline](#) for DACA permit renewal, and to [allow DACA renewal applications to be resubmitted](#) after the Administration's Oct. 5 deadline.
- I [spoke again](#) on the House floor to bring to the forefront the need to vote on the Dream Act.
- As a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I met with White House Chief of Staff John Kelly about moving forward to secure DREAMer protections and to pass bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform.